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OLC 71-0201

29 March 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Senator Henry M. Jackson (D., Wash.)

1. On Saturday morning I received a call from Dorothy Fosdick, on the staff of the Senate Subcommittee on National Security and International Operations, asking if we could come up to the Hill Saturday afternoon to bring Senator Jackson up-to-date on any new developments in the Soviet missile program. Miss Fosdick said the Senator had seen Tad Szulc's article in the Saturday morning New York Times and had the impression there was some new information on this subject. Mr. Duckett and I met with the Senator in his office at 3:30 p.m.

2. Senator Jackson explained he would be appearing on "Issues and Answers" on Sunday and wanted to be sure he had the latest information on the missile situation. Mr. Duckett went over the details concerning the new Soviet missile silos and added there was no new evidence since the Director's briefing of the Senate Armed Services Committee on 4 March. When he learned that identification of the 11 silos (plus 5 others at the Test Center) was based on only partial coverage of the Soviet Union, the Senator asked about the possibility of construction in other areas which had not been covered. Mr. Duckett recalled that in 1965, at the peak of their missile construction, the Soviets built 66 SS-9 sites. He said it was reasonable to assume they still had that kind of capability. Senator Jackson said he would probably use the figure of 60 to 70 possible sites when he was interviewed on Sunday (and, in fact, he did).

3. Senator Jackson then turned to the Middle East situation. In bringing the Senator up-to-date on this, Mr. Duckett mentioned that the largest Soviet cargo aircraft had been flying into Egypt presumably with some type of heavy equipment. The exact nature of this equipment is unknown, however. (Senator Jackson also mentioned this on "Issues and Answers.")

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4. Mr. Duckett reviewed the latest situation report on Pakistan and the meeting concluded at about 4:30 p.m.

5. In the course of our meeting Senator Jackson referred to his appearance on television several weeks ago in which he disclosed the existence of the new ICBM silos. He gave us the impression that he had not specifically cleared this with anyone in the Executive Branch, but he did not exclude the possibility that he gave someone advance notice without asking their advice. He went on to say that the Administration was very pleased that he had made this information public. Senator Jackson also said he could not understand Senator Symington's irritation over his statement and added that Symington had apologized to him after publicly criticizing him for disclosing these facts.

6. We spoke to the Senator about the Director's appearance before the Muskie Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Monday and asked if he had any words of advice or guidance. He said he considered Senator Muskie an "honorable man," but issued a caution concerning Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff personnel. While he did not know Richard Moose, who is the staff man on the Muskie Subcommittee, he expressed concern about Jim Lowenstein.

7. The statements which Senator Jackson used in his appearance in "Issues and Answers" on Sunday were about what he told us he would say. To the best of my knowledge he made no reference to "reconnaissance photos" as implied in Chalmers Roberts' article in the Washington Post this morning.



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Deputy Legislative Counsel

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